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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/665,721	09/18/2000	Sukendeep Samra	080398.P288	5421

7590 02/23/2004

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EXAMINER

TRAN, TAM D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2676

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/665,721

Applicant(s)

SAMRA, SUKENDEEP

Examiner

Tam D. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 12/03/03, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New ground of rejection set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cooper et al. (PN 5729673), hereinafter simply Cooper.

3. In regard to claims 1, 15 and 29, 43, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine), comprising: preparing autocrop data by using

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user interface module for autocropping each image of a sequences of images, each image comprising a frame of video data; see col.5 lines 15-25; and the computer system has a memory that is used for storing the cropped image (storing autocrop data for each key frame of the sequences of images). See col.3 lines 55-64.

4. In regard to claims 2, 3, 12, 16, 17, 26, 30, 31, 39, 44, 45, 54, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine) wherein preparing autocrop data comprises: determining the active region of a current image of the sequences of images, see col.5 lines 15-85.

5. In regard to claims 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 20, 21, 32, 33, 34, 35, 46, 47, 48, 49, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine) wherein method including magnify (zoom in, zoom out) the image in every horizontal position and vertical position, see col.5 lines 30-85.

6. In regard to claims 8, 9, 22, 23, 36, 37, 50, 51, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine) comprising: performing frame selection, see col.5 lines 39-50.

7. In regard to claims 10, 24, 38, 52, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine) comprises: calculating the difference in area

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between the active region of the current image and active region of the prior image, and means for comparing the difference in area with smoothing factor. See col.6 lines 17-22.

8. In regard to claims 11, 25, 53, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine) wherein magnification image (smooth factor) is processed to crop the object, col.5 lines 50-58.

9. In regard to claims 13, 14, 27, 28, 40, 55, 56, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine), wherein image is zoom out or magnify (adding boundary to the active region of the current image). See col.5 line 50-58.

10. In regard to claims 41 and 42, Cooper teaches method of performing cropping by user interface module which crops the image of each selected key frame (auto-cropping) images for video player (method, system and machine). As to the storage device and the network, it is inherent that every computer has storage device, memory and network communication.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the

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mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PN-4831447, col.4 lines 32-40, Lake teaches method of auto-cropping images for video player (method, system and machine), comprising: preparing autocrop data for each image of a sequences of images, each image comprising a frame of video data; and storing autocrop data for each key frame of the sequences of images.

Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **703-305-4196**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **703-308-6829**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

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Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose
telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Tam Tran

TT
Examiner

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Matthew C. Bella
MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600